

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/809,976

Applicant(s)

BRASS ET AL.

Examiner

Matthew C. Sams

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2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/21/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5,9-24,28-38 and 41-46.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT FOR REASONS OF ALLOWANCE

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with J. Lavar Oldham (Reg. 53,409) on 9/26/2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for handling phone services, comprising:
a computing device comprising:

at least one standalone operating state;

a telecommunications interface for coupling to a mobile phone network,
the telecommunications interface operable to receive data from the mobile phone network;

an ignition switch interface configured to selectively connect to the ignition switch of an automobile for connecting the computing device to the bus of a computer when the ignition switch interface is inserted into the ignition switch;

wherein the ignition switch interface configured to connect to the ignition switch of an automobile facilitates an antenna signal transmitted from said mobile phone network to be received by the computing device through the ignition switch interface; and

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a computer without a telecommunications interface for coupling to a mobile phone network, the computer comprising:

a network interface coupled to the computing device to receive data from the mobile phone network via the telecommunications interface at the computing device; and

an interface selectively coupled to an ignition switch, wherein the ignition switch is configured to connect to the ignition switch interface of the computing device to connect the ignition switch interface to a bus of the computer through the ignition switch.

22. (Currently Amended) A system for handling phone services, comprising:

a computing device without an attached audio input and output device, the computing device comprising:

at least one standalone operating state;

a telecommunications interface for coupling to a mobile phone network, the telecommunications interface operable to receive data from the mobile phone network;

a network interface configured to couple to devices external to the computing device to provide data from the mobile phone network to devices external to the computing device; and

an ignition switch interface configured to selectively connect the computing device to the bus of an external computer through the ignition switch

of an automobile when the ignition switch interface is inserted into the ignition switch; and

wherein the ignition switch interface configured to connect to the ignition switch of an automobile facilitates an antenna signal transmitted from said mobile phone network to be received by the computing device through the ignition switch interface.

43. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the ignition switch interface configured to connect to the ignition switch of an automobile facilitates at least one of power being supplied to the computing device through the ignition switch interface, ~~an antenna signal being received by the computing device through the ignition switch interface,~~ and audio being transmitted between the computing device and the computer through the ignition switch interface.

46. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22 wherein the ignition switch interface configured to connect to the ignition switch of an automobile facilitates at least one of power being supplied to the computing device through the ignition switch interface, ~~an antenna signal being received by the computing device through the ignition switch interface,~~ and audio being transmitted between the computing device and the computer through the ignition switch interface.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The applicant's independent claim 1 is drawn to a system for handling phone services comprising a computing device with at least one standalone operating state, a telecommunications interface for coupling to a mobile phone network, the telecommunications interface operable to receive data from the mobile phone network, an ignition switch interface configured to selectively connect to the ignition switch of an automobile for connecting the computing device to the bus of a computer when the ignition switch interface is inserted into the ignition switch, wherein the ignition switch interface configured to connect to the ignition switch of an automobile facilitates an antenna signal transmitted from said mobile phone network to be received by the computing device through the ignition switch interface, a computer without a telecommunications interface for coupling to a mobile phone network, the computer comprising a network interface coupled to the computing device to receive data from the mobile phone network via the telecommunications interface at the computing device and an interface selectively coupled to an ignition switch, wherein the ignition switch is configured to connect to the ignition switch interface of the computing device to connect the ignition switch interface to a bus of the computer through the ignition switch.

The applicant's independent claim 22 is drawn to a system for handling phone services comprising a computing device without an attached audio input and output device, the computing device comprising at least one standalone operating state, a telecommunications interface for coupling to a mobile phone network, the telecommunications interface operable to receive data from the mobile phone network,

a network interface configured to couple to devices external to the computing device to provide data from the mobile phone network to devices external to the computing device, an ignition switch interface configured to selectively connect to the ignition switch of an automobile for connecting the computing device to the bus of a computer when the ignition switch interface is inserted into the ignition switch, wherein the ignition switch interface configured to connect to the ignition switch of an automobile facilitates an antenna signal transmitted from said mobile phone network to be received by the computing device through the ignition switch interface.

Applicant's claims 1 and 22 comprise a particular combination, which is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art. The closest prior art of record, Chutorash (US-6,144,114), differs from the claimed invention by not teaching the ignition switch interface configured to connect to the ignition switch of an automobile facilitates an antenna signal transmitted from said mobile phone network to be received by the computing device through the ignition switch interface.

3. Accordingly, Applicant's claims are allowed for these reasons and for the reasons recited by the Applicant in the Amendments filed on 6/12/2006, 2/23/2007 and 8/21/2007 and the telephonic interviews on 4/11/2006, 7/20/2007 and 9/26/2007.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew C. Sams whose telephone number is (571)272-8099. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lester Kincaid can be reached on (571)272-7922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MCS
9/26/2007


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